

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUATEM 01555 190020Z

72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 DRC-01 AID-20 /101 W

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O 182356Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2512

UNCLAS GUATEMALA 1555

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GT

SUBJECT: REACTION TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S REMARKS ON GUATEMALAN ELECTION

1. SENATOR KENNEDY'S REMARKS ON GUATEMALAN ELECTION CARRIED HERE ONLY BY EL IMPARCIAL, WHICH BURIED SMALL ARTICLE ON PAGE 11 OF MARCH 15 EDITION, AND BY IMPACTO, WHICH FRONT-PAGED AN ARTICLE ON MARCH 17.

2. MARCH 18 LA NACION CARRIED FULL-PAGE PAID AD ON REMARKS SPONSORED BY "PROFESSIONAL BRANCH" OF MLN-PID, A SMALL GROUP WHICH FAITHFULLY REFLECTS OPINIONS OF GOVERNMENT COALITION. AD ATTACKED KENNEDY, DESCRIBED AS "NORTHAMERICAN SENATOR OF THE 'DEMOCRATIC' PARTY," FOR ABUSIVELY MEDDLING IN GUATEMALAN AFFAIRS AND FOR CRITICIZING PRESIDENT NIXON'S POLICY OF ABSTAINING FROM USE OF "BIG STICK." AD WENT ON TO MENTION THAT KENNEDY IS "CONDEMNED IN HIS OWN COUNTRY FOR IMMORALITY" AND CALLED ON GUATEMALAN CONGRESS TO DEMAND "SATISFACTION" FOR THIS "GROSS LACK OF RESPECT."

3. ON MARCH 16, MLN LEADER AND NEWLY ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT MARIO SANDOVAL ALARCON SENT FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO KENNEDY: "AS CONGRESSMAN AND GUATEMALAN I SAY THAT YOU ARE ABUSIVE AND STUPID (MENTECATO) FOR MEDDLING UNCLASSIFIED

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IN GUATEMALA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS." TELEGRAM PUBLISHED IN

LA NACION NEWS ARTICLE ON MARCH 17 AND AS PAID AD IN MARCH
18 LA NACION.

4. ALERTA, SMALL CIRCULATION DAILY WITH CONSERVATIVE
SLANT, AND LA NOCHE, RECENTLY INTRODUCED EVEING DAILY,
COMMENTED ON KENNEDY REMARKS CALLING THEM
"UNACCEPTABLE INTERFERENCE."

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Draft Date: 18 MAR 1974
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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